

Amendments To the Claims

Claim 1 (Original): A method of preparing 1:1 a neutral complex of essential trace elements and a dicarboxylic alpha amino acid, comprising:  
mixing a water soluble monobasic and amino acid-dicarboxylic acid with a water soluble metal salt of the trace element in salt form;  
adjusting the pH to neutral in a manner to avoid formation of insoluble metal hydroxides; and,  
quickly cooling the reactants to form small crystals of the neutral complexes.